

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STARK TO HOLD 3 TOWN MEETINGS ON SOCIAL SECURITY THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 5th**

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Rep. Pete Stark (D-Fremont) will hold three separate town meetings this Saturday in Fremont, Hayward and Alameda to discuss the future of Social Security with his constituents.

“Social Security is fundamental to the retirement security of every American, young and old,” said Rep. Stark. “I urge my constituents to participate in these meetings and let their views be known on the President’s Social Security proposal. I know people have a lot to say and I’ll be there to listen.”

Congressman Stark has long held regular town meetings with an informal format that allows constituents to ask questions and raise concerns on any issue. This Saturday’s town meetings will focus on the topic of Social Security. At issue will be President Bush’s proposal to divert funds out of the Social Security Trust Fund into private accounts.

“I want my constituents to understand what’s really at stake when it comes to the Bush proposal,” said Stark. “Educating people and having a discussion about the future of Social Security are what these town meetings are all about.”

Saturday’s town meetings will be held in the wake of shifting public opinion toward President Bush’s plan. A new national poll conducted jointly by the New York Times and CBS News shows that 51% of Americans now oppose the idea of private accounts. In the same poll, 69% said they’d oppose private accounts if they resulted in cuts in guaranteed Social Security benefits. Stark will unveil the results of his own informal survey on the President’s Social Security plan drawn from responses submitted by mail and online by residents of the 13th Congressional District.

The following are a list of Congressman Stark’s town meetings:

**FREMONT**

**9:00-10:00 a.m.**

**Fremont Senior Center**

**Wing A**

**40086 Paseo Padre Parkway**

**HAYWARD**

**10:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Hayward City Hall**

**City Council Chambers**

**777 B Street**

**Hayward**

**ALAMEDA**

**12:00-1:00 p.m. □**

**Earhart School**

**Bay Farm Island**

**Multipurpose Room**

**400 Packet Landing Road**